

**FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
OF WISCONSIN, 1893-94**

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Fifteenth Report of the State Board of Health of Wisconsin, 1893-94 by State Board of Health of Wisconsin

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STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF WISCONSIN

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OF
LIBRARY
WISCONSIN.

1893-1894.



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1895.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

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SOLON MARKS, M. D., *President*.....OF MILWAUKEE.
HENRY DAY, M. D.,OF EAU CLAIRE.
F. H. BODENICUS, M. D.,OF MADISON.
C. H. MAERQUARDT, M. D.,OF LA CROSSE.
J. T. REEVE, M. D.,OF APPLETON.
J. W. HANCOCK, M. D.,OF ELLSWORTH.
U. O. B. WINGATE, M. D., *Secretary*OF MILWAUKEE.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Office of the Secretary of the State Board of Health,

MILWAUKEE, October 1, 1894.

To His Excellency, The Governor, GEO. W. PECK—

SIR:—In conformity with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, I have the honor to present herewith the Fifteenth Report of the State Board of Health for the biennial period ending September 30, 1894.

Respectfully submitted,

U. O. B. WINGATE, M. D.,

Secretary.

27003

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GENERAL REPORT OF THE BOARD.

The following is presented as the Fifteenth Report of the State Board of Health covering the biennial period ending September 30, 1894, as required by the organic law establishing the Board and other special acts relating thereto. The report embraces the following topics:

General Report of the Board.

Report of the Secretary.

Report to the Legislature relative to drainage in the Menominee and Kinnickinnic Valley Districts.

Report on Small Pox in the State.

Interstate Quarantine.

Some Points Relating to Vaccination, by C. H. Marquardt, M. D.

School Hygiene, by D. F. Lincoln, M. D.

General Health of Cities and Towns as presented by Health Officers.

During the past two years the reputation of the state of Wisconsin, as a healthy state, has continued, and while epidemic diseases have prevailed in different parts of the state, no extensive epidemic has existed.

The Board desires to call especial attention to that portion of the Secretary's report relative to Vital Statistics, and to repeat what has been formerly urged by this Board, that it is of very great importance that our laws be so amended as to make these statistics more perfect. The state covers a large area of territory, and cities and villages are rapidly being organized, and correct statistics are of the most vital importance to the welfare, growth, prosperity, and complete understanding of the state and its affairs.

The Board also desires to call especial attention to the report to the legislature concerning the condition of the

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Menominee and Kinnickinnic river districts, and the importance of taking immediate steps to relieve the unsanitary condition existing in those districts, and it would here emphasize what is said in that report relative to the importance of a mandatory provision of law relating thereto.

The Board also urges that the Contingent fund, established by legislative act two years ago to be used for the prevention of Cholera, and other dangerous contagious diseases, be continued. As that fund, which was then established, not having been used by this Board reverts back to the state treasury, it will be necessary to pass another bill, setting aside a fund for this purpose, during the session of the present legislature. While the state has been free from Cholera during the past two years, the Board does not deem it wise to neglect any precaution relative to the future, as the disease may appear in our midst any year for a number of years to come. Dr. Koch, of Berlin, in a recent address relating to Cholera in Europe, stated:

"I think it is more necessary to emphasize the efficacy of the measures we have adopted, as we may certainly count on more Cholera years. Our experience shows us that it has generally lasted ten years before the Cholera has disappeared from Europe."

The opinion of this great authority on the subject is coincided in by a majority of leading Sanitarians of the world, and it is of the utmost importance that the state should be prepared to meet this enemy should it make its appearance at any time. Knowing what we do concerning this disease, it will be an easy matter, it is believed, to control it very quickly should it appear, providing sufficient means are at command for the purpose, hence, legislation appropriating a fund for this purpose and continuing it, is of the most vital importance to the state.

The Small Pox outbreak in this state, beginning in January, 1894, has caused much anxiety in different sections, but generally the disease has ~~been~~ been met with efficient sanitary ser-

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vice and has not been allowed to make marked headway in but few localities.

The vaccination rule promulgated by this Board, requiring vaccination of all school children before being allowed to be enrolled as pupils in either public or private schools, has been very generally observed throughout the state, and it is believed much has been done by this means to prevent the spread of Small Pox. In some localities, however, strange as it may seem, active and persistent opposition to vaccination exists, and we fear that the result of an outbreak in such localities would be very disastrous. In this connection we commend a careful perusal of the paper on "Some Points Relating to Vaccination," by Dr. C. H. Marquardt, a member of this Board, which appears in connection with this report.

We also desire to call especial attention to the article on "School Hygiene," which is a report of the committee appointed by the American Medical Association to consider this subject, which report was made at the meeting of that Association, held in Milwaukee, in 1893. The results of that committee's work have been generally accepted by sanitarians throughout the country, and it contains most valuable information for every one interested in school sanitation.

Respectfully submitted:

SOLON MARKS,
J. T. REEVE,
F. H. BODENIUS,
C. H. MARQUARDT,
HENRY DAY,
J. W. HANCOCK,
U. O. B. WINGATE,
State Board of Health.